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Fall 2015

PSYC 4330

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University of New Orleans

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PSYC 4330 – Comparative Psychology
Fall 2015
MWF 10:00 - 10:50am
Geology/Psychology – Room 2013

Instructor: Dr. Jay Matherne GP 2044 280-5545 jmathern@uno.edu
Office Hours: MWF 12-1:30p and by appt.

TA: Ashley Sanders GP2046B asander7@my.uno.edu
Office Hours :

Required Text: *Comparative Psychology: Evolution and Development of Behavior*- 2nd Edition, Mauricio Papini (2008), Psychology Press (ISBN: 978-1-84169-460-3)

Prerequisite: Psyc 2300/3300 is required to take this course.

Course Description: The main goal is to provide students with knowledge about the factors that contribute to the evolution and development of behavior. You will learn a basic vocabulary and a set of concepts and theories that will enable you to appreciate the importance and scope of comparative psychology. This course is organized around five fundamental topics: evolutionary theory, brain evolution, animal learning and cognition, behavioral development, and primate evolution.

Student Learning Outcomes: This course is designed to enable students to acquire an understanding of behavior and the principles of learning in a variety of species of animal life, including humans. Contrasts and comparisons between the behavior, learning styles and capabilities of species are made. This course is designed to enable students to answer questions concerning:

- A. the study of behavior in biology and psychology
- B. appreciation for the history of the study of behavior
- C. understanding basic genetics
- D. knowledge of the evolution of behavior
- E. awareness of physiology of behavior
- F. learning and associative behavior
- G reproductive behavior
- H. assimilation of social behavior
- I. physiology of behavior
- J. realization of behavior of higher primates

Attendance: Attendance will be taken at all classes. Students must sign the attendance sheet to be considered present in class. Students who miss 0-3 classes will receive a 5 point bonus at the end of the semester to be added to their course point total. Students who miss more than 6 classes will have 1 point subtracted for each additional lecture missed. Absence excuses must be turned in in writing and no excuse notes will be accepted after the last day of classes. Excused absences are at the discretion of the instructor

Conduct: To ensure a quality learning environment, please turn off/silence all cell phones prior to the start of class and exams. Talking in class, except in the context of in-class discussions, is prohibited. Finally, tardiness is not accepted, especially for exams. Please do not disrupt the lecture/exam by coming in late. The instructor reserves the right to ask

a student to leave class if his or her behavior is interfering with the learning process of the other students.

Exams: There will be four exams. Each regular exam will be worth 50 points. Exams will be a combination of multiple choice, matching, and short answer/ short essay. Make up exams will not be allowed without prior approval by the instructor. All grades will be posted on Moodle.

Quizzes: During the course of the semester there will be 5 in-class quizzes, each worth 10 points, for a total of 50 points. Quizzes will consist of 5 to 10 questions in a multiple choice, true/false, short answer, matching, or short essay format. Students will have 10-15 minutes to complete the quiz. Quizzes may not be made up if a student is absent.

Disability Accommodations: Students requiring special assistance due to a disability must have their disability documented by the Office of Disability Services who will determine the appropriate accommodations and communicate these to the instructor. Instructions for applying for accommodations can be found at <http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu/ODS/>.

Academic Dishonesty Policy: Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. For acts of academic dishonesty, instructors are allowed to assign a grade of "F" on an assignment where academic misconduct has occurred. Instructors may also assign a grade of "F" when it is felt that the violation on the academic exercise in question threatens the learning outcomes for the course. Please refer to the UNO Judicial Code for further information, including the consequences for acts of academic dishonesty. The Code is available online at http://www.uno.edu/~stlf/policy%20Manual/judicial_code_pt2.htm.

Grades:	Exam 1:	50 pts. (A=45-50, B=40-44, C=35-39, D=30-34, F=29-0)
	Exam 2:	50 pts. “ “
	Exam 3	50 pts.
	Exam 4	50 pts. “ “
	Quizzes:	50 pts.
		= 250 pts total (Attendance Bonus = 5 points)

Final Grades:	A =	90-100%	225-250 pts.
	B =	80-89%	200-224 pts.
	C =	70-79%	175-199 pts.
	D =	60-69%	150-174 pts.
	F =	Below 60%	149 - below

PSYC 4330 - TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chap.</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Assignment / Quiz</u>
8/19		Introduction to Class – Review of Syllabus	
8/21	1	Introduction	
8/24	1	Introduction	
8/26	2	Biological Evolution	
8/28	2	Biological Evolution	
8/31	2	Biological Evolution	
9/2	3	Origin and Evolution of Animals	
9/4	3	Origin and Evolution of Animals	
9/7		HOLIDAY – LABOR DAY	
9/9	4	Evolution and Development	
9/11	4	Evolution and Development	<i>Quiz #1 – Ch. 3</i>
9/14	4	Evolution and Development	
9/16		EXAM 1 (Ch. 1-4)	
9/18	5	Simple Nervous Systems and Behavior	
9/21	5	Simple Nervous Systems and Behavior	
9/23	5	Simple Nervous Systems and Behavior	
9/25	6	Evolution of the Vertebrate Brain and Behavior	
9/28	6	Evolution of the Vertebrate Brain and Behavior	
9/30	6	Evolution of the Vertebrate Brain and Behavior	
10/2	7	General Processes in Associative Learning	<i>Quiz #2 – Ch. 6</i>
10/5	7	General Processes in Associative Learning	
10/7	7	General Processes in Associative Learning	
10/9		Exam 2 (Ch. 5-7)	
10/12	8	Comparative Analysis of Associative Learning	
10/14	8	Comparative Analysis of Associative Learning	
10/16		NO CLASS –MID-SEMESTER BREAK	
10/19	8	Comparative Analysis of Associative Learning	
10/21	9	Animal Cognition	
10/23	9	Animal Cognition	
10/26	9	Animal Cognition	
10/28	10	Genes and Behavior	<i>Quiz #3 – Ch. 9</i>
10/30	10	Genes and Behavior	
11/2	10	Genes and Behavior	
11/4		EXAM 3 (Ch. 8-10)	
11/6	11	Early Learning and Behavior	
11/9	11	Early Learning and Behavior	
11/11	11	Early Learning and Behavior	
11/13	12	Early Social Learning and Behavior	<i>Quiz #4 – Ch. 11</i>

11/16 12 Early Social Learning and Behavior
 11/18 12 Early Social Learning and Behavior
 11/20 13 Reproduction and Social Behavior

11/23 13 Reproduction and Social Behavior
 11/25 13 Reproduction and Social Behavior

11/27 HOLIDAY – THANKSGIVING

11/30 14 Brain, Behavior, and Evolution of Primates
 12/2 14 Brain, Behavior, and Evolution of Primates
 12/4 14 Brain, Behavior, and Evolution of Primates

Quiz #5 – Ch. 13

12/11 Friday EXAM 4 (Ch. 11-14) (10:00AM – 12:00N)

ACADEMIC CALENDAR – Fall 2015

August 19 Regular classes begin.

Schedule adjustment period starts (with \$50 fee penalty per day). Late Registration Course Add or Swap Fee of \$50 applies for all Late Registration Course Additions & Course/Section swaps.

August 25 Last date of schedule adjustment period (with fee penalty till 11:59 PM)

Final date to drop course(s) with 100% refund. After this date, there is no refund for drops.

Final date to change from credit to audit.

Final date to change from audit to credit.

August 29 Last date for textbook refunds.

September 7 Labor Day Holiday.

September 8 Final date to drop course(s) or resign and not have course(s) recorded.

Deadline for undergraduates who received "incompletes" in the previous Summer session to complete course work. "I" grades are changed to "F" after this date.

14th class day. Census day.

September 9 From September 9 through October 14 an automatic "W" will be recorded for all courses dropped. (Drop fee of \$50 applies per drop)

September 16 50% REFUND. Final date to resign (withdraw from all courses) and receive 50% refund (less appropriate non-refundable fees). No refunds made for partial reduction in course enrollment.

September 25 Deadline to file an Application for Degree for December Commencement.

October 1 Extended Payment Plan Option (EPPO) final payment deadline (4:30 P.M.).

October 5-9 Mid-semester examination period.

October 13 Mid-semester grades due (9 A.M.)

October 14 Final date for dropping courses or resigning from the University (11:59 P.M.)

Final date to drop course(s) or resign from the University. Resignations (withdrawal from all courses) must be completed through WebSTAR on or before October 14.

October 15-16 Mid-semester break. (Does not apply to Saturday classes)

October 30 REGISTRATION for 2016 Spring Semester begins.

November 1 Application for admission to Graduate School due date for Spring 2016.

November 3 Last date for thesis and dissertation defenses for Graduate degree candidates.

November 17 Format check due date for Graduate degree candidates with thesis and dissertation requirements.

November 21 Last day of Saturday classes.

November 26-27 Thanksgiving Holidays.

December 4 Last day of classes.

Deadline for Graduate students who received incomplete grades in the previous Spring semester to complete coursework. "I" grades changed to "F" grades after this date.

December 5 Reading Day. Final Exams for Saturday classes and Accounting 2100, group exam.

December 7 Final examinations begin.

December 11 Final examinations end.

December 15 Application for Undergraduate Admission deadline for 2016 Spring Semester.

Final grades due (9 A.M.)

Final grades available on WebSTAR

December 16 Graduation Lists due (9 A.M.)

December 18 COMMENCEMENT (Lakefront Arena, 3:00 P.M. Further information can be found at registrar.uno.edu/commencement.) Academic appointments end.

December 24-January 1 University Closed.